

By: Representative Capps

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 74

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING DR. KENT WYATT UPON HIS
2 RETIREMENT AS THE PRESIDENT OF DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Kent Wyatt, a resident of Cleveland,
4 Mississippi, will retire as President of Delta State University on
5 June 30, 1999; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt first became associated with Delta State
7 University at age 11, when his father, Forest E. Wyatt, accepted a
8 position in 1946 on the physical education faculty as the head
9 football coach; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt earned his baccalaureate degree from Delta
11 State University, a master's degree from the University of
12 Southern Mississippi and a doctorate from the University of
13 Mississippi; and

14 WHEREAS, after six years as an assistant to the president and
15 five years as Director of the Delta State University Alumni
16 Association, Dr. Wyatt assumed the presidency on July 1, 1975; and

17 WHEREAS, during Dr. Wyatt's years as president, Delta State
18 University has experienced a dramatic growth in student
19 enrollment, physical plant, academic recognition, private
20 donations to the institution and public service; and

21 WHEREAS, Dr. Wyatt provided leadership through budget cuts,
22 the Ayers case and threats to close the university or merge with
23 another university; and

24 WHEREAS, with Dr. Wyatt's guidance, the faculty and adjunct
25 faculty has increased by 61% and every academic program which can
26 be accredited has been accredited by the proper national agency;

27 and

28 WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Dr. Wyatt has been
29 responsible for the construction of 18 new buildings and the
30 renovation of many others; and

31 WHEREAS, after his retirement, Dr. Wyatt will remain in
32 Cleveland, Mississippi, with his lovely wife, Janice, who has
33 lovingly supported him in all his endeavors; and

34 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds it most appropriate to pay
35 special tribute to such an outstanding leader as Dr. Kent Wyatt,
36 whose contributions to Delta State University have had a
37 tremendous impact on the university and the community:

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
39 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
40 THEREIN, That we do hereby commend Dr. Kent Wyatt upon his
41 retirement as President of Delta State University, wishing him the
42 best in his future endeavors and extend our deepest appreciation
43 for his many years of service to the university.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be
45 furnished to Dr. Kent Wyatt, Delta State University and members of
46 the Capitol Press Corps.